

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Robert Eric Montgomery	)	Examiner:
	)	
Serial No.: TBA (Cont. of USSN 09/054,156)	)	
	)	Art Unit:
Filed: Herewith	)	
	)	
Title: TOOTH BLEACHING COMPOSITIONS	)	

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-referenced continuation patent application being submitted herewith as follows:

In the specification:

Please amend page 1 of the specification as follows:

Related Applications

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/054,156, filed April 2, 1998; which in turn is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/719,569, filed September 25, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,922,307; which claims priority from U.S. provisional Application No. 60/004,258, filed September 25, 1995; each of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

In the claims:

Please delete claims 1-16 without prejudice to the filing of any appropriate continuation application.

Please add new claims 17-41 as follows:

17. A method for whitening the teeth of a subject comprising the steps of  
applying to the teeth a composition comprising an alkalizing agent having a pH of  
between about 7 and about 10, and

contacting the teeth with a mixture comprising a hydrogen peroxide precursor compound  
in an amount effective to whiten teeth.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the alkalizing agent is selected from the group  
consisting of sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, and ammonium carbonate.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein the composition is a rinse, paste or gel.

20. The method of claim 17 wherein the composition is buffered in a manner to  
maintain tooth surface pH between about 7 and about 10.

21. The method of claim 17 wherein tooth surface pH is maintained at a pH of  
between about 7 and about 10.

22. A method for whitening the teeth of a subject comprising the steps of  
applying to the teeth a composition comprising an alkalizing agent having a pH of  
between about 7 and about 10, and

contacting the teeth with a mixture comprising hydrogen peroxide in an amount effective  
to whiten teeth.

23. The method of claim 22 wherein the alkalizing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, and ammonium carbonate.

24. The method of claim 22 wherein the composition is a rinse, paste or gel.

25. The method of claim 22 wherein the composition is buffered in a manner to maintain tooth surface pH at between about 7 and about 10.

26. The method of claim 22 wherein tooth surface pH is maintained at a pH of between about 7 and about 10.

27. A method for whitening teeth of a subject comprising the steps of raising tooth surface pH to between about 7 and about 10, and contacting the tooth surface with a peroxide-containing or peroxide releasing tooth bleaching composition.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the step of raising tooth surface pH includes applying to the teeth a composition comprising an alkalizing agent having a pH of between about 7 and about 10.

29. The method of claim 28 wherein the alkalizing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, and ammonium carbonate.

30. The method of claim 28 wherein the composition comprising an alkalizing agent is a rinse, paste or gel.

31. The method of claim 28 wherein the composition comprising an alkalizing agent is buffered in a manner to maintain tooth surface pH at between about 7 and about 10.

32. The method of claim 28 wherein tooth surface pH is maintained at a pH of between about 7 and about 10.

33. A method for whitening the teeth of a subject comprising the steps of applying to the teeth a composition capable of buffering tooth surface pH at between about 7 and about 10, and

contacting the teeth with a mixture comprising a hydrogen peroxide precursor compound or hydrogen peroxide in an amount effective to whiten teeth.

34. The method of claim 33 wherein the composition capable of buffering tooth surface pH includes a member selected from the group consisting of potassium phosphate, sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, and ammonium carbonate.

35. The method of claim 33 wherein the composition is a rinse, paste or gel.

36. A method for whitening the teeth of a subject comprising the steps of buffering tooth surface pH at between about 7 and about 10, and contacting the teeth with a mixture comprising a hydrogen peroxide precursor compound or hydrogen peroxide in an amount effective to whiten teeth.

37. The method of claim 36 wherein the step of buffering include applying to the tooth surface a composition comprising a member selected from the group consisting of potassium phosphate, sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, and ammonium carbonate.

38. The method of claim 37 wherein the composition is a rinse, paste or gel.

39. A method for whitening the teeth of a subject comprising the steps of maintaining tooth surface pH at between about 7 and about 10, and contacting the teeth with a mixture comprising a hydrogen peroxide precursor compound or hydrogen peroxide in an amount effective to whiten teeth.

40. The method of claim 39 wherein the step of maintaining includes applying a composition including a member selected from the group consisting of potassium phosphate, sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, and ammonium carbonate.

41. The method of claim 40 wherein the composition is a rinse, paste or gel.

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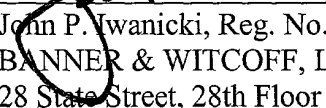
REMARKS

Applicant is submitting herewith a copy of the 1449 submitted with the parent application. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner obtain references from the parent application file histories.

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry and consideration of the above amendments and newly submitted claims. Applicant's newly submitted claims 18-42 are supported by provisional application 60/004,258 and the instant application, and accordingly, do not constitute new matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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John P. Iwanicki, Reg. No. 34,628  
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.  
28 State Street, 28th Floor  
Boston, MA 02109  
(617) 227-7111

**Version of Amendments with Markings to Show Changes Made**

[Cross Reference] Related Applications

This [The present] application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/054,156, filed April 2, 1998; which in turn is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/719,569, filed September 25, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,922,307; which claims priority from U.S. provisional [a]Application No. [number] 60/004,258, filed September 25, 1995; each of which are [is] hereby incorporated herein by reference.

TOTAL SECTIONS